

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER  
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
COMMAND**

**AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
COMMAND INSTRUCTION 52-110**

**2 JUNE 2014**

**Chaplain**



**WHITE ROPE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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(Col Bruce Glover)

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This publication implements AFPD 52-1, *Chaplain Corps* and AFI 52-101, *Planning and Organizing*. This instruction establishes procedures for participation in the White Rope Leadership Program available to enlisted students attending initial skills resident training courses. This instruction applies to training locations aligned under Second Air Force (2 AF), AETC A2/3/10, and technical training courses located at Air University. It applies to Air National Guard (ANG) and Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) members attending technical and flying training. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the office of primary responsibility (OPR) using Air Force (AF) Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*, route AF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate chain of command to HQ AETC Command Chaplain Office. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Disposition Schedule (RDS) and disposed of in accordance with (IAW) Air Force Records Information Management System (AFRIMS) Records Disposition Schedule (RDS).

**1. Standards and Discipline.** Wing Chaplain, Chapel Superintendant/NCOIC, and Military Training Leader will ensure all students meet Air Force requirements of standards and discipline.

**2. Purpose.** The White Rope Leadership Program (WRLP) is a chapel based program intended to strengthen leadership skills and sharpen professional traits as well as promote Airman spiritual, moral, and character development. WRLP participants are given the opportunity to facilitate wing or group chapel programs and community volunteer events. The WRLP also allows students the opportunity to serve and fellowship with others through the chapel program. Furthermore it supports chapel operations and assists in the free exercise of religion, spiritual care, and advisement of leadership.

**3. Progression of Leadership.**

- 3.1. White Rope in Training.
- 3.2. White Rope.
- 3.3. Lead or Unit (e.g. Squadron) Rope, as needed.
- 3.4. Head or Senior White Rope.

**4. Requirements.** The WRLP is a volunteer program; neither on-the-job training nor any White Rope duties must interfere with the student's progress in academic training. The following requirements are for the WRLP:

- 4.1. Complete an application to the WRLP, including an interview with chapel personnel. (See Attachment 2 for sample interview questions.)
- 4.2. Attend WRLP meetings unless excused in advance.
- 4.3. Maintain minimum of 80% grade point average or satisfactory progression.
- 4.4. Wear White Rope aiguillette IAW AETCI 36-2216, *Administration of Military Standards and Discipline Training*, paragraph 19.2.

**5. Program Responsibilities.**

- 5.1. Wing Chaplain or delegated authority:
  - 5.1.1. Oversees the WRLP.
  - 5.1.2. Conducts interviews with applicants and annotates approval or disapproval of applicant on AETC Form 1620.
  - 5.1.3. Has final authority for removal of White Rope status.
- 5.2. Chapel Superintendant/NCOIC or delegated authority:
  - 5.2.1. Manages the WRLP.
  - 5.2.2. Develops and coordinates MOA/MOU between HC and respective Training Group leadership. (See Attachment 3 as a guide.)
  - 5.2.3. Conducts interviews with applicants and annotates approval or disapproval of applicant on AETC Form 1620.

### 5.3. White Rope.

- 5.3.1. Upholds the highest standards of professionalism and morality.
- 5.3.2. Corrects and reports violations of Air Force standards to a chaplain or chaplain assistant.
- 5.3.3. Assists with facilitation of the Airman Ministry Center (AMC).
  - 5.3.3.1. Knows and enforces the AMC's policies.
  - 5.3.3.2. Volunteers every week at the AMC.
- 5.3.4. Liaison between the student population and the chapel staff
- 5.3.5. Announces chapel programs during weekly formations.
- 5.3.6. Posts and maintains the current Group or Wing chapel schedule on bulletin boards in the dormitories.
- 5.3.7. Recruits "top notch" Airmen for the White Rope Leadership Program.
- 5.3.8. Properly trains future White Ropes and signs off when the Airman knows the material.
- 5.3.9. Refers and escorts Airmen in crisis to a chaplain assistant or chaplain.

**6. Privileged Communication.** White Ropes cannot afford people privileged communication. WRLP participants must know the policy on privileged communication IAW AFI 52-101 *Planning and Organizing*, AFI 52-102 V2 *Chaplain Assistant Professional Development*, and *Military Rules of Evidence*, Rule 503.

### 7. Expectations.

- 7.1. Operates in a religiously pluralistic environment, supporting and respecting the free exercise of religion for all personnel regardless of faith convictions or affiliation.
- 7.2. Refrains from proselytizing other students or trainees while engaged in White Rope duties.
- 7.3. Sets an ethical and moral example to peers.
- 7.4. Complies with WRLP requirements at all times.
- 7.5. Demonstrates Air Force Core Values, Core Values of respective military component, and Chaplain Corps Core Values.
- 7.6. Maintains exceptional academic achievement and military bearing at all times.
- 7.7. Models excellence in service to others and diligence in the pursuit of a deeper spiritual life.
- 7.8. Advocates for the AMC and the WRLP.

STEVEN A. SCHAICK, Ch, Col, USAF  
Command Chaplain

## ATTACHMENT 1

### GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES & SUPPORTING INFORMATION

#### *References*

AFPD 36-26, *Total Force Development*, 27 Sep 2011

AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, 1 Mar 2008

AETCI 36-2216, *Administration of Military Standards and Discipline Training*, 6 Dec 2010

AFI 52-101, *Planning and Organizing*, 5 Dec 2013

AFI 52-102 V2, *Chaplain Assistant Professional Development*, 01 Aug 2012

*Military Rules of Evidence*, Rule 503

#### *Prescribed Forms*

AETC Form 1620, *White Rope Application* (Blank Format)

#### *Abbreviations and Acronyms*

**AFRC**—Air Force Reserve Command

**ANG**—Air National Guard

**IAW**—In Accordance With

**NCOIC**—Non Commissioned Officer In Charge

**MOA**—Memorandum of Agreement

**MOU**—Memorandum of Understanding

**NPS**—Non Prior Service

**OJT**—On the Job Training

**OPR**—Office of Primary Responsibility

**WRLP**—White Rope Leadership Program

#### *Terms*

**Head or Senior White Rope**— designated leadership position based on sustained proven leadership abilities as a White Rope

**Lead or Unit Rope**— designation for a White rope assigned an area of responsibility, e.g. squadron

**Military Training Leader**— military professional that counsels airmen attending technical school on training or personal problems, military bearing, standards, and behavior; and schedules and conducts military training functions for students

**Memorandum of agreement/understanding (MOA/MOU)**— a written agreement that establishes the working relationships between the commander and the wing chaplain in support of the White Rope Program

**Nonprior service (NPS)**— individuals who enter the military with no previous military service or have not been awarded an AFSC.

**White Rope**— any NPS student that has completed all requirements of training pertaining to the White Rope Program and awarded the White Rope Aiguillette

**White Rope Aiguillette**— decorative white cord with hanging points awarded to a NPS student upon successful completion of White Rope training requirements

**White Rope in Training**— the learning period during which a NPS meets the training requirements of the White Rope Leadership Program

**White Rope Leadership Program (WRLP)**— a group of NPS students volunteering to serve as liaisons between the base student population and the chapel staff

**ATTACHMENT 2****SAMPLE WHITE ROPE INTERVIEW AND EVALUATION QUESTIONS**

**A2.1. Objective:** Identify Airmen of character who are committed to serving others in the White Rope Leadership Program.

**Figure A2.1. Candidate Interview Questions:**

Tell me about yourself.  
Why do you want to be a White Rope?  
In your opinion, what does it mean to be a White Rope?  
What would you contribute to the White Rope Leadership Program?  
How would being a White Rope help you?  
Have you done any community service in the past?  
Do you have any LORs or LOCs or other disciplinary actions pending?  
What talents, skills, knowledge or passion can you share with your community of Airmen?

**Figure A2.2. Staff Evaluation:**

Does the individual demonstrate the ability to speak clearly and distinctly?  
Does the individual understand and agree with the need to maintain a high moral standard or moral conduct, both on and off duty?  
Does the individual believe he/she **WILL** have any difficulties supporting all types of faith groups and activities?  
Does the individual have a positive attitude?

## ATTACHMENT 3

## SAMPLE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Figure A3.1. Sample MOU Format

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND

Date

MEMORANDUM FOR XX TRG

FROM: XX TRW/HC

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Commander, XXth Training Group (TRG) and Wing Chaplain, XXth Training Wing (TRW)

1. **PURPOSE.** This MOU establishes the working relationships XX TRG/CC and Wing Chaplain (HC), XX TRW in its support of the White Rope Leadership Program at the chapels and facilities used by XX TRW/HC on XYZ AFB.
2. **AUTHORITY.** The XX TRG, a military entity of the XX TRW and Air Education and Training Command (AETC), operates on XYZ AFB IAW AETCI 36-2216, XX TRG Manual 36-2216 and the XX TRG Student handbook. The XX TRW/HC, a military entity of the XX TRW and AETC, operates IAW the requirements for the Chaplain Corps contained in the AFI 52-101, Planning and Organizing.
3. **GENERAL.**
  - a. **SCOPE.** The mission of the XX TRG is to train Airmen to their specific career fields assigned under the XX TRG. The mission of the XX TRW/HC is to open the gate to spiritual fitness as visible reminders of the Holy and to provide opportunities for XYZ AFB to exercise the constitutional right to freedom of religion.
  - b. **ASSUMPTIONS.**
    1. The Commander, XX TRG is responsible for the overall operation and welfare of the student population, and has delegated authority to each individual Training Squadron Commander and Military Training Flight (MTF) for the overall operation and welfare of the students assigned to each individual squadron.

2. The Wing Chaplain, XX TRW has delegated authority to the Director, X Airmen Ministry Center to establish the White Rope Leadership program. Requirements are communicated to XX TRW/HC and XX TRG/CC.

#### 4. RESPONSIBILITIES.

##### a. The XX TRG will:

1. Provide Airmen the opportunity to participate in the White Rope Leadership Program, once the Military Training Leader has approved the application.
2. Support White Ropes who choose to participate in XX TRW/HC weekly programs and services, as training schedule allows.
3. Allow Airmen to wear aiguillettes IAW AETCI 36-2216, *Administration of Military Standards and Discipline Training*, para 19.

##### b. The Director, Airmen Ministry Center will:

1. Provide a master accountability roster to the XX TRG/MTL email group every Wednesday. Roster will include the number of White Rope Leaders who attended Sunday services and the number of ropes removed.
2. Provide weekly leadership training to White Ropes at the Airmen Ministry Center.

5. **REVIEW:** This MOU is reviewed annually. All amendments will be reviewed by the XX TRG Superintendent Military Training and the Director, Airmen Ministry Center and approved by the XX TRG/CC and XX TRW/HC.

6. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** This MOU is effective indefinitely from the date of signature by XX TRG/CC and XX TRW/HC.

For the XX TRG:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Block  
Commander

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

For the XX TRW/HC:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Block  
Wing Chaplain

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE